**Bursting Forth...** 



This sunflower was just a bud when I brought the stems in from the garden; a fascinating sculptural structure, green and spiky, formed of strong interlocking curves. I was unsure whether any of the buds would open indoors, but slowly it has uncurled, releasing its yellow petals, exposing the pristine centre within and will, I trust, mature to be as gloriously huge as the others. How wonderful that it is fulfilling its promise. How much more so, the bursting forth of God's Promise! Promise for ourselves and for the world; Promise of Kingdom. Sometimes it seems far off, as beautifully intriguing as the sunflower bud but a long way from the current reality. It is tempting to doubt, to waver in our certainty, **BUT** the day IS coming, there WILL be a great Bursting Forth, an Unfurling, a Shout, a Revealing. It takes faith to see the bloom before it opens yet we are not left blind; the Scriptures declare the Promise for all to see. It is ours to pray, "Your Kingdom come, on earth as it is in Heaven!"

It is ours to declare the Lordship of Christ

over people and places that seem far off. It is ours to call forth such Kingdom indwelling in ourselves that the world catches the Fire. It is ours to say not just, "It will come" but, "It is coming.....do you not perceive it?" It is ours to awaken the bud, to join the voices of believers worldwide who see beyond the present confinement into Birth. The bud has to give way to the emerging Life, there is no stopping it. Therefore we stir up our hearts to pray. We bow down, nay, prostrate ourselves before the King of kings, acknowledging His Awesome Authority, submitting ourselves to His Touch and His Word, and worshipping, worshipping. We lift our heads and praise His Holy Name. We rise and stand, raising our voices to cut through the unbelief, the darkness, to meet it head-on with the Sword of the Spirit. Voices of Hope answering the desperate cry of a suffering world, uttering Words that are not our own, but proceed from the Spirit. Voices that are ushering in the Kingdom. We do not know how long it is until fulfilment, but we know it comes. So, we do our own bursting forth, this day, praising God for His Works in our lives and proclaiming, "Your Kingdom Come!!"

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Alleluia!